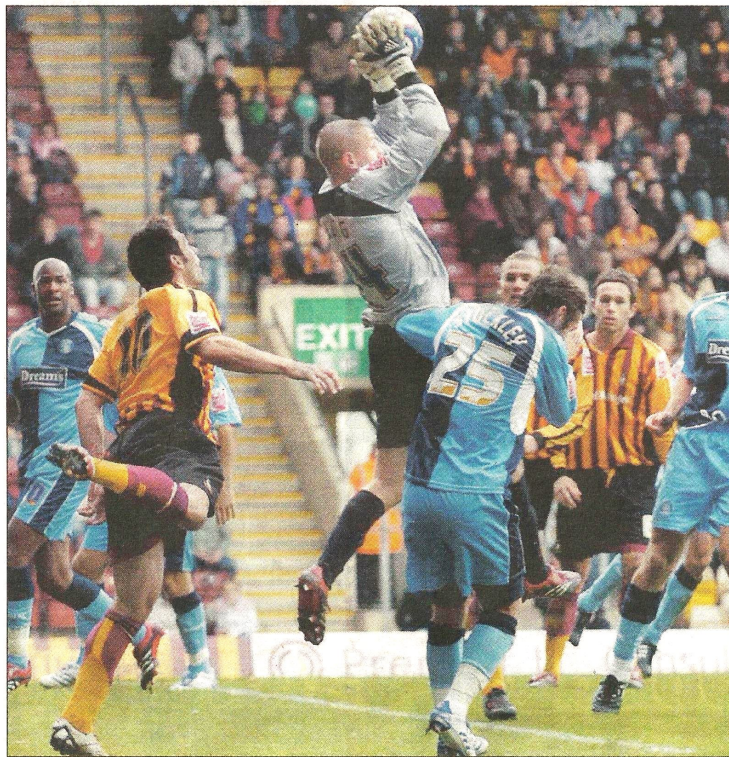


Keeper comes from nowhere to shine in Wanderers' win



Total control: Frank Fielding kept a clean sheet on his Blues debut at Bradford

SPRING
WANDERERS boss Paul Lambert hailed emergency keeper Frank Fielding as being the next big thing after seeing the 19-year-old shut out Bradford City.

The Blackburn Rovers reserve was only signed on Friday and met up with his new team-mates on the eve of the kick off at the hotel.

Fielding was recruited on an emergency loan alongside Bolton reserve stopper Przemyslaw Kazimierczak because of injuries to first choice keepers Jamie Young and Scott Shearer.

Fielding had just about enough time to learn the names of the four defenders in front of him, and had a brief 1pm kickabout on the Bradford pitch with keeping coach Laurence Batty and Kazimierczak before being plunged in at the deep end for his league debut.

But the England U19 international played out of his skin producing stunning saves to twice deny Omar Daley and to keep out Eddie Johnson's block-busting free kick as Wanderers silenced the 13,500 Bradford crowd by coming away with an

WANDERERS

impressive 1-0 win.

Manager Paul Lambert said: "What a debut that was. He looks about four years old but he plays like a 44-year-old."

"His save from the free-kick was something else and he can kick the ball an absolute mile. He was just extraordinary."

Lambert looked as though he had drawn a blank in his search to find a goalie until Fielding answered the call.

Lambert said: "We must have tried to sign about 9,000 different goalkeepers. But we couldn't get one."

"We only got it signed and sealed by 5pm on Friday."

"I hadn't seen him play before but he came with a glowing reference from Blackburn and now we can all see why."

"Everyone I spoke to said this kid could be the next big thing and you can see he's a terrific prospect."

"He was lightning off his line and his save from the free kick was absolutely brilliant."

"He was so confident. It was a debut to remember from him."

Fielding was the last to leave the ground after his heroic display. The team bus had already left the ground by the time he emerged from the dressing rooms to meet his mum after being detained to take a routine drugs test.

And the way he played it wouldn't have surprised anyone if he had failed.

He said: "It went very quick but I really enjoyed my debut."

"I was still training with Blackburn on Friday morning but by the evening I was meeting up with my new team-mates at the hotel in Bradford."

Fielding was only told he was playing an hour before kick off but it didn't faze him.

He said: "I had a few nerves but they were good nerves. I was just looking forward to it."

"I had a good early save coming off my line and that helped me to settle in."

"I'm very pleased with how it went. It couldn't have gone any better for me but it is only the start. It's only one game so I won't be getting carried away."

"I'm just looking forward to playing against Barnet now."